

In the first paragraph on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that the Action is a replacement of the Office Action which was not received.

However, in the Office Action dated February 1, 2005, the Examiner also indicates that the Office Action is a replacement of the Action of April 30, 2003 which was not received.

In addition, it is respectfully pointed out that the Examiner does not comment on the Amendments and arguments submitted with the Amendment dated April 27, 2005 and May 25, 2005.


Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to take these Amendments into consideration and to reconsider and withdraw the rejections of the claims.

Applicants have noted that the Examiner indicated that claims 5, 10, 13 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, Applicants respectfully submit that, for the reasons set forth in the Amendments referred to above, amended claims 1 and 11 and all of the claims depending therefrom are allowable.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,




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Dated: September 2, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 2, 2005.

By: 

Friedrich Kueffner

Date: September 2, 2005